The Barber Papers

CHINA

INITIATING AUTHORITY:

FERRACUTE MACHINE CO., BRIDGETON, N.J.

Date Range of Correspondence: 8/15/1904 - 2/15/1905

Number of Documents: 16, to Barber or Morgan

Art Work: Obverse and reverse of 10 Cash coin; enlargement of reverse of 10 Cash coin; 1:1 scale drawings of 6 die sizes; drawings, including enlargement, of Manchu characters at centers of coins; blueprint indicating erroneous characters on coins. Die impressions on card: none.

Significance: This correspondence appears to be the only record of Barber's involvement in die making for China.

CHINA

8/15/1904	Letter to Barber re making hubs & dies for Chinese Coins.	(1 Page) CF #1
8/18/04	Letter to Barber seeking price reduction.	(1 Page) CF #2
8/23/04	Letter to Barber per Morgan ordering master dies, hubs, and working dies.	(1 Page) CF #3
9/2/04	Letter to Barber re Chinese coins.	(1 Page) CF #4
9/2/04	Art work showing obverse and reverse of 10 Cash coins real size.	CF #5
9/2/04	Art work showing enlarged reverse of 10 Cash coin.	CF #6
9/12/04	Letter to Barber re minor die changes.	(1 Page) CF#7
9/12/04	1:1 Scale drawings of exact die sizes for 6 dies.	(2 Pages) CF #8
9/12/04	Drawings showing Mongolian characters at center of coins, including enlargements.	CF #8, Page 2, and CF #9
9/26/04	Letter to Barber expressing satisfaction.	(1 Page) CF #10
10/20/04	Letter to Barber re sample coin sent to customer; retain hubs & dies.	(1 Page) CF #11
10/28/04	Letter to Barber re Customer's correction of one character.	(1 Page) CF #12
10/31/04	Letter to Barber returning art work for his use.	(1 Page) CF #5, 6, 8, 9
11/3/04	Letter to Barber indicating minor changes requested by customer.	(1 Page)
11/3/04	Blueprint indicating erroneous characters.	CF #13
11/3/04	Letter to Barber re checking precise Chinese alloy.	(1 Page) CF #14
11/9/04	Letter to Barber re design acceptable; significance of small corrections.	(1 Page) CF #15
11/11/04	Letter to Barber - design is accepted; make dies.	(1 Page) CF #16
11/15/04	Letter to Barber re date when Honan dies and hubs will be shipped.	(1 Page) CF #17
12/19/04	Letter to Barber re dies cracking.	(2 Pages) CF #18
12/15/(05)	Letter to Barber re dies received, drifts to be sent.	(1 Page) CF #19
Undated	Blueprint instructions and drawings for Szechuan Coins.	(3 Pages) CF #20

CHINA — INITIATING FIRM: FERRACUTE MACHINE CO, BRIDGETON, NJ

/15/1904	LETTER TO BARBER RE MAKING HUBS & DIES FOR CHINESE COINS (1 PAGE)	CF #1
/18/1904	LETTER TO BARBER SEEKING PRICE REDUCTION (1 PAGE)	CF #2
/23/1904	LETTER TO BARBER PER MORGAN ORDERING MASTER DIES, HUBS, AND WORKING DIES (1 PAGE)	CF #3
/2/1904	LETTER TO BARBER RE CHINESE COINS (2 PAGES)	CF #4
" "	ART WORK SHOWING OBVERSE & REVERSE OF 10 CASH COINS REAL SIZE.	CF #5
" "	ART WORK SHOWING ENLARGED REVERSE OF 10 CASH COIN.	CF #6
9/12/1904	LETTER TO BARBER RE MINOR DIE CHANGES (1 PAGE)	CF #7
" " "	~~Enclosing~~ 1:1 SCALE DRAWINGS OF EXACT DIE SIZES FOR 6 DIES (2 PAGES)	CF #8
" " "	DRAWING SHOWING MONGOLIAN CHARACTERS AT CENTER OF COINS, (INCLUDING ENLARGEMENT)	CF #8 PAGE 2 AND #9
9/26/1904	LETTER TO BARBER EXPRESSING SATISFACTION (1 PAGE)	CF #10
/20/1904	LETTER TO BARBER RE SAMPLE COIN SENT TO CUSTOMER; RETAIN HUBS & DIES (1 PAGE)	CF #11
/28/1904	LETTER TO BARBER RE CUSTOMER'S CORRECTION OF ONE CHARACTER (1 PAGE)	CF #12
/31/1904	LETTER TO BARBER ~~Enclosing~~ RETURNING ART WORK FOR HIS USE (1 PAGE)	CF #5, 6, 8, 9
/3/1904	LETTER TO BARBER INDICATING MINOR CHANGES REQUESTED BY CUSTOMER (1 PAGE)	
" "	~~ART WORK~~ BLUEPRINT INDICATING ERRONEOUS CHARACTERS	CF # 13
" "	LETTER TO BARBER RE CHECKING PRECISE CHINESE ALLOY (1 PAGE)	CF # 14
/9/1904	LETTER TO BARBER RE DESIGN ACCEPTABLE; SIGNIFICANCE OF SMALL CORRECTIONS (1 PAGE)	CF # 15
/11/1904	LETTER TO BARBER. DESIGN IS ACCEPTED; MAKE DIES, (1 PAGE)	CF # 16
/15/1904	LETTER TO BARBER RE DATE WHEN HONAN DIES & HUBS WILL BE SHIPPED (1 PAGE)	CF # 17
/19/1904	LETTER TO BARBER RE DIES CRACKING (2 PAGES)	CF # 18
'15 /(1905?)	LETTER TO BARBER RE DIES RECEIVED, PROOFS TO BE SENT (1 PAGE)	CF # 19
UNDATED	BLUEPRINT INSTRUCTIONS AND DRAWINGS FOR SZECHUEN COINS ~~& HUBS, DIES, PROOF COINS~~ (3 PAGES)	CF # 20

FERRACUTE MACHINE CO.

TRADE FERRACUTE MARK

PRESSES, DIES, AND OTHER SHEET METAL TOOLS.

MACHINERY FOR MINTS, AND FOR MAKING HARDWARE, CYCLES, ELECTRICAL GOODS etc.

CABLE ADDRESS, "FERRACUTE, BRIDGETON."
LONG DISTANCE TELEPHONE, NO. 34.
UEBER'S CODE USED.

Bridgeton, New Jersey, U.S.A., August 15, 1904.

Answering Yours of _____.

Mr. Charles E. Barber,

c/o United States Mint,

Philadelphia.

Dear Sir:-

We enclose herewith sample coin and would ask you to let us know your very best net price to us on one set of master dies, hubs, and two pair of working dies for producing coines about same as sample. In making this quotation please bear in mind that we have strong German competition for this class of work, and in getting an order in at present we may be able a little later to take several other orders as we feel if we once make another start with our machines in China that other orders will quickly follow. We, therefore, trust you will make your quotation as liberal as possible, and also state how soon you could furnish after receipt of order.

With kind regards, we are,

Yours truly,

Ferracute Machine Co.,

E Per E. Parkin Sec'y.

Answered Aug 16
Coin Complete $300
Time one Month

FERRACUTE MACHINE COMPANY

TRADE FERRACUTE

PRESSES, DIES, AND OTHER SHEET METAL TOOLS.

MACHINERY FOR MINTS, AND FOR MAKING HARDWARE, CYCLES, ELECTRICAL GOODS etc.

CABLE ADDRESS, "FERRACUTE, BRIDGETON."
LONG DISTANCE TELEPHONE, NO. 34.
UEBER'S CODE USED.

Bridgeton, New Jersey, U.S.A., ~~August 23,~~ 190__. 4

Answering Yours of ~~8/19~~

Mr. Charles E. Barber,

Per George T. Morgan,

U.S.Mint, Philadelphia.

Dear Sir:-

Please enter our order for the master dies, hubs and two pairs of working dies for coins similar to sample we sent you. We will send you full information as to measurements, sketches, etc. within a few days, as soon as we receive them from China. We thank you for the concession, and trust we may be able to send you an order for some more dies at an early date.

Is not the U. S. Mint in need of press similar to one of our coining presses to be used in your department of the Mint? If at any time the U. S. Mint wishes a press we would be pleased to quote prices and send descriptions and we are under the impression that we overheard something recently to the effect they were thinking of placing a pressin your department.

Yours truly,

Ferracute Machine Co.,

E Per E. Bassler Sec'y.

DONT FAIL
TO VISIT OUR EXHIBIT AT THE
LOUISIANA PURCHASE EXPOSITION
AT SAINT LOUIS.
BLOCK 29, AISLES D AND 5,
MACHINERY HALL.

FERRACUTE MACHINE COMPANY

TRADE FERRACUTE

PRESSES, DIES, AND OTHER SHEET METAL TOOLS,

MACHINERY FOR MINTS, AND FOR MAKING HARDWARE, CYCLES, ELECTRICAL GOODS etc.

CABLE ADDRESS, "FERRACUTE, BRIDGETON."
LONG DISTANCE TELEPHONE, NO. 34.
LIEBER'S CODE USED.

Bridgeton, New Jersey, U.S.A., September 2, 190__. 4

Answering Yours of_____

Mr. Charles E. Barber,

c/o U. S. Mint,

Philadelphia.

Dear Sir:-

Referring to recent correspondence in reference to the orderfor one set of master dies and hubs and two pair of working dies for Chinese coins, would state we now have information through our representative regarding the coin, a copy of which we herewith enclose as well as blue print drawing A and B. You already have a duplicate of the sample coin. Please note, however, we wish you to make the relief a little bolder than in the coin, as it was worn and probably not as deep as it should be in the first place. Kindly let us know upon receipt of this whether everything is perfectly understood and whether you will go right ahead with the work, and oblige,

Yours truly,

Ferracute Machine Co.,

R Per E. Parkin Sec'y.

INFORMATION REGARDING COIN TO BE MADE

WITH COINING MACHINERY.

We have just received a letter from our agents in Shanghai, and quote from same as follows;-

" We are sending by bearer under registered cover two drawings and one sample coin from which the dies are to be made for the Minting Machinery. The drawing marked 'A' on drawing cloth is supposed to be an exact pen and ink reproduction of the coun; the drawing marked 'B' is of an enlarged size of one side of the coin showing the lettering. This we send to enable the die-maker to judge of the proper thickness of the strokes in the lettering. The coin we send is from the Hupeh Mint and we furnish this as the dragon is exactly the sameas is wanted on the dies. On the drawing 'A' the word is spelled ' Hou-nan'. This is incorrect; it should be ' Ho-nan'. They have marked this correction on the drawing. The English printing is not very well done so that the die-maker will have to touch this up and make the letters fair and even. The finished coin should be like the drawing 'A', except the dragon should be as per sample coin and the English letters at the top ' Ho-nan'. We think from these drawings and the coin you will be able to get out exactly what is wanted.

The drawings and sample coin referred to we enclose herewith. As they are the only cuts we have, we will ask you to kindly make copies, and forward us one set.

HO-NAN

A

河南省造
光緒元寶
當制錢六文

ESTABLISHED 1863.
INCORPORATED 1877.

OBERLIN SMITH, PREST. & MECH. ENG.
ENOS PAULLIN, SECY. & TREAS.

FERRACUTE MACHINE COMPANY

TRADE FERRACUTE

PRESSES, DIES, AND OTHER SHEET METAL TOOLS.

MACHINERY FOR MINTS, AND FOR MAKING HARDWARE, CYCLES, ELECTRICAL GOODS etc.

CABLE ADDRESS. "FERRACUTE, BRIDGETON."
LONG DISTANCE TELEPHONE. NO. 34.
LIEBER'S CODE USED.

Bridgeton, New Jersey, U.S.A., September 12 1904

Answering Yours of 9/7

Mr. Charles E. Barber,

Philadelphia.

Dear Sir:-

We have delayed answering your letter of above date to get further information. Kindly ignore the coin we have already sent you and in following the instructions given you refer to coin that we herewith enclose. We consider the average diameter of coin is 1.1065". You will notice this coin does not have the dots on both sides. If for any reason this does not make the matter clear kindly let us know what further information you require and let us know whether you will proceed with the dies based on the diameter being as mentioned above.

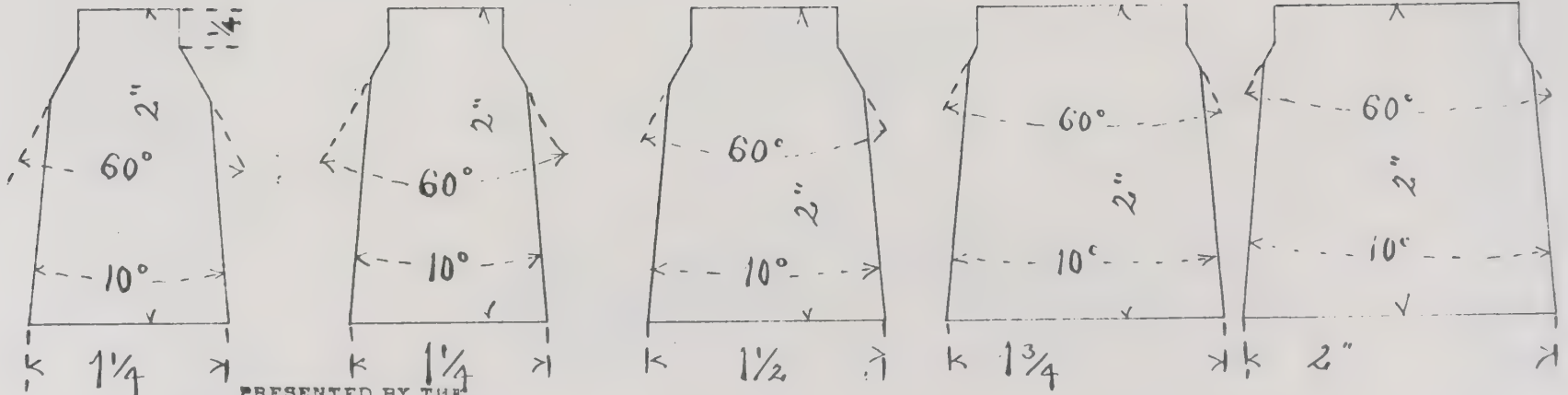
See below drawing showing exact sizes we wish you to make the working dies. Kindly let us know if you think the dimensions are about correct. To save further trouble kindly return the other Chinese coin sent you.

Yours very truly,

Ferracute Machine Co.,

E

Per E. Paullin Sec'y.



PRESENTED BY THE
FERRACUTE MACHINE CO.
MFRS. OF DIE
BRIDGETON, N.J., U.S.A.

Scale 1/1 Real Size

1/4
1/4
1 3/4
1 3/4

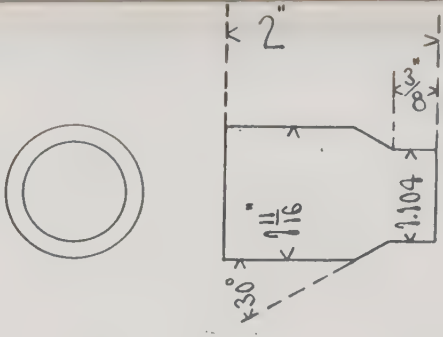
(Ed. 1-18-1901—1,000,000.)

No. 1767. TREASURY DEPARTMENT

— Liam. Mc-Nan —

1,109 inches.

28.14 mm.



The Mongolian characters in the center of the coins.

Indent No. 1979.

ESTABLISHED 1863.
INCORPORATED 1877.

OBERLIN SMITH, PRES'T. & MECH. ENG.
ENOS PAULLIN, SEC'Y. & TREAS.

FERRACUTE MACHINE COMPANY,

TRADE FERRACUTE MARK

PRESSES, DIES, AND OTHER SHEET METAL TOOLS.

MACHINERY FOR MINTS, AND FOR MAKING HARDWARE, CYCLES, ELECTRICAL GOODS etc.

CABLE ADDRESS, "FERRACUTE, BRIDGETON."
LONG DISTANCE TELEPHONE, NO. 34.
LIEBER'S CODE USED.

Bridgeton, New Jersey, U.S.A., September 26, 190__.

Answering Yours of 9/23

Mr. Charles E. Barber,

Philadelphia.

Dear Sir:-

Your letter of above date received, also sample coin We are pleased to note that everything is understood, and thank you for your attention.

Yours truly,
Ferracute Machine Co.,
Per E. Paullin Sec'y.

E

ESTABLISHED 1863.
INCORPORATED 1877.

OBERLIN SMITH, PRES'T & MECH. ENG. E. A. EMOS PAULLIN, SEC'Y. & TREAS.

FERRACUTE MACHINE COMPANY,

TRADE FERRACUTE MARK

PRESSES, DIES AND OTHER SHEET METAL TOOLS.

MACHINERY FOR MINTS, AND FOR MAKING HARDWARE, CYCLES, ELECTRICAL GOODS etc.

CABLE ADDRESS, "FERRACUTE, BRIDGETON."
LONG DISTANCE TELEPHONE NO. 34.
UEBER'S CODE USED

Bridgeton, New Jersey, U.S.A. October 20, 190_. 4

Answering Yours of 10/19

Mr. Charles E. Barber,

c/o U. S. Mint,

Philadelphia.

Dear Sir:-

Your letter of above date received, also the sample coins and bill. We have sent the coin to our customer for his approval. In themeantime we would request that you hold the master dies, hubs and two pair of working dies until further orders.

Thanking you for the promptness in which you put through this order, and trusting we may be in a position at an early date to give you an order for some more dies, we are

Yours truly,

Ferracute Machine Co.,

E Per E. Paullin Sec'y.

ESTABLISHED 1863.
INCORPORATED 1877.

OBERLIN SMITH, PRES'T & MECH. ENG. ENOS PAULLIN, SEC'Y & TREAS.

FERRACUTE MACHINE COMPANY,

TRADE FERRACUTE MARK

PRESSES, DIES, AND OTHER SHEET METAL TOOLS.

MACHINERY FOR MINTS, AND FOR MAKING HARDWARE, CYCLES, ELECTRICAL GOODS etc.

CABLE ADDRESS "FERRACUTE, BRIDGETON."
LONG DISTANCE TELEPHONE NO. 34.
LIEBER'S CODE USED

Oct. 28 4

Bridgeton, New Jersey, U.S.A., 190.

Answering Yours of

Mr. Chas. E. Barber,

c/o U.S.Mint,

Philadelphia.

Dear Sir:-

We have just received the following communication from our customer regarding the coining dies you are making:

"Referring to the sample coin you sent us, we examined same and it appears to us that the 3rd character in the top row is not exact to the blue print you sent us. Kindly compare same with your original The dye-work seems very clear."

Please let us hear from you regarding the comments, and oblige,

Yours truly,

Ferracute Machine Co.,

E Per E. Paullin Sec'y.

ESTABLISHED 1863.
INCORPORATED 1877.

OBERLIN SMITH, PRES'T & MECH. ENG.
ENOS PAULLIN, SEC'Y & TREAS.

FERRACUTE MACHINE COMPANY,
AND FERRACUTE

PRESSES, DIES, AND OTHER SHEET METAL TOOLS,

MACHINERY FOR MINTS, AND FOR MAKING HARDWARE, CYCLES, ELECTRICAL GOODS etc.

CABLE ADDRESS, "FERRACUTE, BRIDGETON."
LONG DISTANCE TELEPHONE, NO. 34.
UEBER'S CODE USED.

Bridgeton, New Jersey, U.S.A., Oct. 31st, 1904.

Answering Yours of 10/29

Mr. Charles E. Barber,
c/o U.S. Mint,
Philadelphia.

Dear Sir:—

Your letter of the above date received and we enclose, herewith, the blue-print specifications you originally had and trust you will accept our apology for not having sent it when we sent you a copy of our letter from customers regarding dies.

We did not examine the samples in connection with the order as we preferred leaving this matter with our customer, we, therefore, sent it off immediately upon receipt of sample from you.

Very truly yours,

Ferracute Machine Company,

Per E. Paullin Sec'y.

ESTABLISHED 1863.
INCORPORATED 1877.

OBERLIN SMITH, PRES'T. & MECH. ENG. ENOS PAULLIN, SEC'Y. & TREAS.

FERRACUTE MACHINE COMPANY.

TRADE FERRACUTE MARK

PRESSES, DIES, AND OTHER SHEET METAL TOOLS.

MACHINERY FOR MINTS, AND FOR MAKING HARDWARE, CYCLES, ELECTRICAL GOODS etc.

CABLE ADDRESS "FERRACUTE, BRIDGETON."
LONG DISTANCE TELEPHONE NO. 34.
LIEBER'S CODE USED.

Bridgeton, New Jersey, U.S.A., Nov. 3, 1904

Answering Yours of 11/2.

Mr. Charles E. Barber,

c/o United States Mint,

Philadelphia.

Dear Sir:-

Your letter of above date received. We find that our customer complains of omission of projections on characters as indicated in red at XXX shown on blue print enclosed. We notice also slight differences in characters as specified on same as indicated in red at SSSSSS. These latter variations we consider of no great importance, but if not too much trouble our customer would like corrections made at XXX.

Please let us hear from you regarding this at your earliest convenience, and oblige

Yours truly,

Ferracute Machine Co.,

E Per E. Paullin Secretary.

ESTABLISHED 1883.
INCORPORATED 1877.

OBERLIN SMITH, PRES'T & MECH. ENG. EMOS PAULLIN, SEC'Y. & TREAS.

FERRACUTE MACHINE COMPANY.

TRADE FERRACUTE MARK

PRESSES, DIES AND OTHER SHEET METAL TOOLS.

MACHINERY FOR MINTS, AND FOR MAKING HARDWARE, CYCLES, ELECTRICAL GOODS etc.

CABLE ADDRESS "FERRACUTE, BRIDGETON."
LONG DISTANCE TELEPHONE NO 34.
UEBER'S CODE USED.

Bridgeton, New Jersey, U.S.A., November 3 1904.

Answering Yours of _____.

Mr. Charles E. Barber,

c/o United States Mint,

Philadelphia.

Gentlemen:-

We have just received permission from the customers to whom we have sold the Chinese outfit, to cut a piece out of the original "copper" coin which we sent you a few weeks ago. Will you kindly cut off a small piece, probably a quarter of it or so, and have it roughly analyzed that we may know the amount of copper, and what amount and kind of other alloy there is in it.

If it so happens that you can judge near enough of the material of this coin, without a regular analysis, please let us know. Our object is to get some material to try the new presses and dies, which will be the same as they expect to use.

Yours truly,

Ferracute Machine Co.,

E Per Oberlin Smith, President.

FERRACUTE MACHINE COMPANY

TRADE FERRACUTE MARK

PRESSES, DIES AND OTHER SHEET METAL TOOLS.

MACHINERY FOR MINTS, AND FOR MAKING HARDWARE, CYCLES, ELECTRICAL GOODS etc.

CABLE ADDRESS, "FERRACUTE, BRIDGETON."
LONG DISTANCE TELEPHONE NO. 34.
LIEBER'S CODE USED.

Bridgeton, New Jersey, U.S.A., Nov. 9th, 1904

Answering Yours of 11/7

Mr. Charles E. Barber,
c/o U.S. Mint,
Philadelphia.

Dear Sirs—

The coin design as you have sent it impressed upon the paste-board is all right and acceptable to us, we of course being responsible for it being so to our customer.

You need not have taken the trouble to correct any more than the three points marked X, as stated in our former letter, these being the ones the customer complained of. Of course it does no harm to have the other ones, marked S, corrected also.

The reason these little projections in the Chinese characters must be according to the design, is that each projection alters the meaning of the word represented by the character; and as we are not Chinese scholars we cannot be sure how much the meaning is changed; but it does not do to run any risk by overlooking these projections, which are evidently made on purpose.

Thanking you for your information regarding the composition of the sample coin, and asking that you will send us a bill for the expense of the analyzing, we are, with the kind regards of the writer,

Yours very truly,
Ferracute Machine Company,
Per Oberlin Smith, Pres't.

S.

ESTABLISHED 1863.
INCORPORATED 1877.

OBERLIN SMITH, PREST. & MECH. ENG.
ENOS PAULLIN, SECY. & TREAS.

FERRACUTE MACHINE COMPANY,

TRADE FERRACUTE MARK

PRESSES, DIES, AND OTHER SHEET METAL TOOLS,

MACHINERY FOR MINTS, AND FOR MAKING HARDWARE, CYCLES, ELECTRICAL GOODS etc.

CABLE ADDRESS, "FERRACUTE, BRIDGETON."
LONG DISTANCE TELEPHONE, NO. 34.
UEBER'S CODE USED.

Bridgeton, New Jersey, U.S.A., Nov. 11, 190__. 4

Answering Yours of 11/9

Mr. Charles E. Barber,

c/o United States Mint,

Philadelphia.

Dear Sir:-

Our letter of the 9th was intended to distinctly accept the design of the cardboard impression you sent. Please, therefore, proceed as fast as possible with the dies according to the same.

Yours truly,

Ferracute Machine Co.,

E Per Oberlin Smith President.

ESTABLISHED 1883.
INCORPORATED 1877.

OBERLIN SMITH, PRES'T. & MECH. ENG.
EMOS PAULLIN, SEC'Y. & TREAS.

FERRACUTE MACHINE COMPANY,

TRADE FERRACUTE MARK

PRESSES, DIES, AND OTHER SHEET METAL TOOLS.

MACHINERY FOR MINTS, AND FOR MAKING HARDWARE, CYCLES, ELECTRICAL GOODS etc.

CABLE ADDRESS, "FERRACUTE, BRIDGETON."
LONG DISTANCE TELEPHONE NO. 34.
LIEBER'S CODE USED.

Bridgeton, New Jersey, U.S.A., November 15, 190__. 4

Answering Yours of_____.

Mr. Charles E. Barber,

c/o U.S. Mint,

Philadelphia.

Dear Sir:-

Kindly rush forward and advise us by return mail when you will ship the master dies, hobs and working dies that you are finishing for us for the Honan Province, China. We have the coining machinery nearly finished and hope to be ready to test same early next week.

Yours truly,

Ferracute Machine Co.,

E Per E. Paullin Sec'y.

FERRACUTE MACHINE COMPANY,
TRADE FERRACUTE MARK
PRESSES, DIES AND OTHER SHEET METAL TOOLS.
MACHINERY FOR MINTS, AND FOR MAKING HARDWARE, CYCLES, ELECTRICAL GOODS etc.

CABLE ADDRESS: "FERRACUTE, BRIDGETON."
LONG DISTANCE TELEPHONE NO. 34.
LIEBER'S CODE USED.

Bridgeton, New Jersey, U.S.A., December 19, 1904

Answering Yours of 12/16--16

Mr. Charles E. Barber,

c/o U. S. Mint,

Philadelphia.

Dear Sir:-

It is true that the first dies we received were a little too large at the necks so that they upset and jammed in the collar. We do not see why it was our fault that they were thus too large, as you knew the finished diameter of the coin which we made the collar to suit. We, however, ground them down a little to allow for their permanently upsetting, which seemed to stop after they had once expanded a little. Since then we have had no trouble on this score. The rubbing that you notice on some of the old dies seems to be at one side and is probably due to our setting them in a lower block which could find its own position by slightly moving around. Our presses are so made that the lower die block can be run in this way, or can be fastened exactly central with the collar, which perhaps is the better way to prevent the necks wearing. We do not see, however, that this has anything to do with the dies breaking. Neither can the construction of our presses, wherein they differ from those you use at the Mint, have any effect that we know of on the breakage of the dies. Assuming that they are loose enough in the collars not to jam, we do not see why anything but the actual amount of pressure put upon them can hurt them. If this is too great they may of course crush, in anybody's press. As you know, our presses are especially good in the way of keeping the dies exactly in posi-

tion,and moving them straight up and down, instead of swinging them at an angle as is done with the"triangles" in your presses. The writer found that at various European Mints which he visited they had abandoned the triangles and put slides in between the columns —in old presses.

We are at a loss to account for the cracking of these dies, except for the reason that the steel must have been accidentally of an inferior quality. This of course you could not tell about when using it. We have not subjected the dies to any harder treatment than we have done repeatedly in former cases, as for instance upon the other Chinese coins, the Bolivian coins and the medals of our own for which you made us dies. We never have had any serious trouble with cracking,, although we used the same kind of presses as now,and the same kind of material, namely soft brass, for extended tests.

Yours truly,

Ferracute Machine Co.,

E Per Oberlin Smith President.

FERRACUTE MACHINE COMPANY

OBERLIN SMITH, Pres't and Treas.
FRED. P. SMITH, Sec'y and Asst. Treas.

PRESSES, DIES AND OTHER SHEET METAL TOOLS.

Light Machinery improved, cheapened and manufactured on the Duplicate System.

Established 1863.
Incorporated 1877.

CABLE ADDRESS, "FERRACUTE, BRIDGETON,"—"LIEBER'S CODE."
LONG DISTANCE TELEPHONE No. 34.

Bridgeton, New Jersey, U.S.A. Feb. 15th. 189

Answering Yours of 2-12th.

Mr. Chas. E. Barber,
Phila.

Dear Sir:-

The dies are received, and we hope, before very long, to invite you and others down to see them running in the presses.

We have the drifts nearly done, but have been delayed by our milling-machines being out of order, and a new one, which we are "breaking in," not being adjusted just right. We hope to ship the first one sometime today.

Yours truly,
Ferracute Machine Co.,
Per Oberlin Smith,
Pres't.

Indent No 1719-

Instructions re inscription on coins.

The specimens of coins sent with the indent (under registered cover) are from the Kwang Tung mint.

The only alteration in the inscription for the Szechuen Mint coins is, instead of

KWANG TUNG

make

SZECHUEN

on the reverse side instead of

東廣

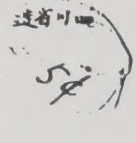
make

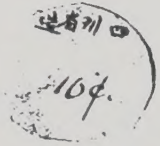
川四

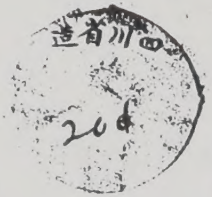
All the rest including [illegible]

is identical with Specimen

OK







Indent No. 1979.

These character mean Province of Szechuen.

四川省造